

# National Gallery of Art

On the National Mall in Washington, DC  
Spring Highlights / March – May 2016



National Gallery of Art Commemorates 75 Years  
Three Centuries of American Prints  
Works on Paper from Paul Mellon's Collection



President Franklin D. Roosevelt speaking at the dedication of the National Gallery of Art, March 17, 1941. Photo courtesy of National Gallery of Art, Gallery Archives

## Commemorating 75 Years

In March 2016 the National Gallery of Art commemorates its 75th anniversary with a variety of public programs and presentations that highlight the generous gifts of art from many individuals since the museum was established. The exhibition *In Celebration of Paul Mellon* features some of the finest pastels, watercolors, drawings, prints, and illustrated books given to the Gallery by Paul Mellon and celebrates his astonishing generosity and distinctive approach to collecting. For more details, see page 4.

Mellon's father, Pittsburgh financier and art collector Andrew W. Mellon, founded the Gallery and gave not only the West Building and his priceless art collection but also a substantial endowment. Believing that the museum should be a truly national institution, Andrew Mellon insisted that it not bear his name. His two children, Ailsa Mellon Bruce and Paul Mellon, also became lifelong benefactors. When the Gallery opened on March 17, 1941, Paul Mellon presented the museum to the nation on behalf of his late father, and President Franklin D. Roosevelt accepted the gift on behalf of the American people.

Other major donors were already beginning to give their collections to the Gallery before its opening. In 1939 Samuel H. Kress donated 375 Italian paintings and 18 sculptures, while P.A.B. Widener's art collection, later enhanced by his son Joseph, was offered to the Gallery in 1939 and given in

1942. In 1943 Lessing J. Rosenwald made his first major gift to the Gallery, donating approximately 22,000 old master and modern prints and drawings over the years. Chester Dale, a collector of French and American art, lent 7 American paintings for the Gallery's opening in 1941 and 25 important French paintings later that year. Dale made his first gift to the Gallery in 1943 and eventually bequeathed most of his remarkable collection to the museum in 1962. Thus the Gallery became a "collection of collections," and these early gifts set a precedent for giving to the nation that continues to this day.

## Concerts

An array of Washington's outstanding military ensembles will perform in honor of the Gallery's 75th anniversary. On March 17 the Air Force Airmen of Note Combo appears at 12:10, 1:10, and 2:10 in the West Building, East Garden Court. "The President's Own" Marine Chamber Orchestra presents its program at 12:00 and 2:00 on March 18 in the West Building, West Garden Court. The US Navy Band Sea Chanters bring their songs to the East Building Atrium at 3:00 on March 19. And on March 20, the US Army Chorus and Brass Quintet perform at 3:30 in the West Building, West Garden Court.



The Marine Chamber Orchestra performs in the West Building, West Garden Court, on March 18 at 12:00.

**Cover** Paul Mellon in front of Sir William Orpen's 1924 portrait of Andrew W. Mellon. Photo by Henry Groskinsky

## Three Centuries of American Prints from the National Gallery of Art

April 3 – July 24, West Building, Ground Floor

Since opening in 1941, the Gallery has amassed an outstanding collection of American prints. Timed to coincide with the Gallery's 75th anniversary, this exhibition — encompassing works from the Colonial era to the present and highlighting major movements in American art — underscores the exceptional strength of the collection in some 150 masterful prints.

Organized by the National Gallery of Art, Washington / Made possible by Altria Group in celebration of the 75th Anniversary of the National Gallery of Art / The international tour of the exhibition is sponsored by the Terra Foundation for American Art / Additional support is provided by The Exhibition Circle of the National Gallery of Art



Frances Flora Palmer, *A Midnight Race on the Mississippi*, 1860, National Gallery of Art, Washington, Donald and Nancy de Laski Fund

## In Celebration of Paul Mellon

May 8 – September 18, West Building, Main Floor

Paul Mellon was one of America's greatest art collectors and remains one of the Gallery's leading benefactors. Timed to coincide with the Gallery's 75th anniversary, a special exhibition of 100 of the finest pastels, watercolors, drawings, prints, and illustrated books selected from his donations celebrates both his wonderful generosity and his distinctive approach to his collection.

Organized by the National Gallery of Art, Washington



Mary Cassatt, *The Black Hat*, c. 1890, National Gallery of Art, Washington, Collection of Mr. and Mrs. Paul Mellon

## Intersections: Photographs and Video from the National Gallery of Art and the Corcoran Gallery of Art

May 29 – January 2, West Building, Ground Floor

This exhibition brings together highlights from the recently merged collections of the Corcoran Gallery of Art and the National Gallery of Art by a range of artists from the 1840s to today. The connections between the two photography collections will be explored through five themes — movement, sequence, narrative, studio, and identity — found in the work of photographers Eadweard Muybridge and Alfred Stieglitz.

Organized by National Gallery of Art, Washington



Eadweard Muybridge, *Ascending and Descending Stairs*, Plate No. 504, 1887, National Gallery of Art, Washington, Corcoran Collection (Museum purchase, 1887)

## Celebrating Photography at the National Gallery of Art: Recent Gifts

Through March 13, West Building, Ground Floor

Accompanied by a major publication, *The Altering Eye*, which celebrates 25 years of photography at the Gallery, this installation brings together an exquisite group of gifts, ranging from photographs made in the 1840s and 1850s to key works by contemporary artists.

Organized by the National Gallery of Art, Washington



Deborah Luster, *Fat* CoCo, Transylvania, Louisiana, March 8, 2002, National Gallery of Art, Washington, Gift of Julia J. Norrell, in Honor of Claude Simard and the 25th Anniversary of Photography at the National Gallery of Art. © Deborah Luster, courtesy of the artist and Jack Shainman Gallery, New York

## Power and Pathos: Bronze Sculpture of the Hellenistic World

Through March 20, West Building, Main Floor

Through the medium of bronze, artists were able to capture the dynamic realism, expression, and detail that characterized the new artistic goals of the Hellenistic period. Visitors will enjoy a rare and unprecedented opportunity to witness the importance of bronze in the ancient world.

Organized by the National Gallery of Art, Washington; the J. Paul Getty Museum, Los Angeles; and the Fondazione Palazzo Strozzi, Florence / Bank of America is the national sponsor of this touring exhibition / Made possible through a generous gift from an anonymous donor / The Marshall B. Coyne Foundation has provided additional support / Supported by an indemnity from the Federal Council on the Arts and the Humanities



Portrait of a Boy, 25 BC – AD 25, Lent by The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, Rogers Fund, 1914

## Louise Bourgeois: No Exit

Through May 15, West Building, Ground Floor

Evocative drawings, prints, and sculptures by Louise Bourgeois — either promised to the Gallery or drawn from its collection — reveal Bourgeois's intensely personal approach to art-making and explore her ties to existentialism.

Organized by the National Gallery of Art, Washington

## In the Library: The Intersection of Commerce and Instruction in Art

Through June 3, East Building, Ground Floor, Study Center  
A variety of literature surrounding artists' materials and instruction charts the ways in which the increasing commercialization of their production may have affected the practice of artists, especially following the industrial revolution.

# Mellon Lectures

[www.nga.gov/casva](http://www.nga.gov/casva)

## 65th A. W. Mellon Lectures in the Fine Arts

April 3, 10, 17, 24, May 1, 8, 2:00, East Building Auditorium

In her six-part lecture series, *The Thief Who Stole My Heart: The Material Life of Sacred Bronzes in Chola India, c. 850 – 1280*, renowned scholar Vidya Dehejia will discuss bronze temple sculptures from the Chola dynasty, the dominant political and cultural force in South India for a period spanning 400 years, from the 9th to the 13th century.



Vidya Dehejia, Barbara Storer Miller Professor of Indian and South Asian Art, Columbia University

April 3

Gods on Parade: Sacred Forms of Copper

April 10

Shiva as "Victor of Three Forts": Battling for Empire, 855 – 955

April 17

Portrait of a Queen: Patronage of Dancing Shiva, c. 941 – 1002

April 24

An 11th-Century Master Sculptor: Ten Thousand Pearls Adorn a Bronze

May 1

Chola Obsession with Sri Lanka and the Silk Route of the Sea in the 11th and 12th Centuries

May 8

Worship in Uncertain Times: The Secret Burial of Bronzes in 1310

# Horticulture

[www.nga.gov/horticulture](http://www.nga.gov/horticulture)

Gardens were an important part of architect John Russell Pope's design concept for the West Building. The interior Garden Courts feature tropical foliage and provide a place of relaxation for visitors. The exterior fountains and surrounding landscape were developed to emphasize and enhance the entrances to the building. Changing floral displays include seasonal arrangements of flowering plants in the West Building Rotunda, such as the Ames-Haskell Azalea Collection, given in honor of the Gallery's 50th anniversary in 1991. The azaleas are shown each spring, usually for the entire month of March, to commemorate the Gallery's anniversary.



Photo by Charles Bauduy, National Gallery of Art, Washington

In 2003, Lee and Juliet Folger graciously gave an endowment to fund floral displays in the West Building Rotunda. They had enjoyed the floral arrangements at the Gallery's special events and wished to share them with all visitors to the museum. Such displays create a spectacular welcome and lush oasis for visitors during the year's dreariest months. Through the Folgers' generosity, the Rotunda features vibrant floral designs through April 15th.



Photo by Rob Shelley, National Gallery of Art, Washington

Plants are also an essential element in the East Building's design. Trees in the atrium bring a sense of scale to the enormous space. Noted landscape architect Dan Kiley designed the plaza and East Building landscape in collaboration with I.M. Pei. Following its construction in 1978, more than 250 new trees were planted around the building and on the plaza between the East and West Buildings.

With the opening of the National Gallery of Art Sculpture Garden in May 1999, horticulture gained new prominence on the Gallery's campus. Concentric circles of littleleaf lindens surround the fountain at the center of the garden, while plantings of indigenous American trees, shrubs, ground covers, perennials, and flowering annuals provide a distinctive setting for the installation of monumental works of modern and contemporary sculpture.



White crepe myrtle trees in front of Tony Smith's *Moondog* (model 1964, fabricated 1998–1999, National Gallery of Art, Washington, Gift of the The Morris and Gwendolyn Cafritz Foundation), Photo by Charles Baudry, National Gallery of Art, Washington

## Illustrated lectures by noted scholars in celebration of the exhibition *Power and Pathos: Bronze Sculpture of the Hellenistic World*



Boy Runner, 100 BC–AD 79, The National Archaeological Museum, Naples (MANN). © Archivio dell'arte, Luciano Pedicini

### Power and Pathos: Bronze Sculpture of the Hellenistic World

March 18, 2:30, East Building Auditorium

Illustrated lectures by Gianfranco Adornato, Scuole Normale Superiore, Pisa, and Andrew Stewart, University of California, Berkeley, and Hearst Museum of Anthropology

### Power and Pathos: Bronze Sculpture of the Hellenistic World

March 19, 12:00, West Building Lecture Hall

Illustrated lectures by Christopher A. Gregg, George Mason University; Despina Ignatiadou, National Archaeological Museum, Athens; Kenneth S. Lapatin, The J. Paul Getty Museum; Richard Mason, University of Maryland, Baltimore County; Carol Mattusch, George Mason University; David Sider, New York University. Symposium respondents include Jens M. Daehner, The J. Paul Getty Museum, and Brunilde Sismondo Ridgway, Bryn Mawr College. Moderated by Faya Causey, National Gallery of Art

## Elson Lecture

March 10, 3:30, East Building Auditorium

Artist Cecily Brown discusses her influences and career with Harry Cooper, department of modern art, National Gallery of Art



Cecily Brown, *Girton a Swing*, 2004, National Gallery of Art, Washington, Gift of the Collectors Committee

## Concert

March 27, 2:00, 3:30, West Building, West Garden Court

Rachel Barton Pine's performance of Bach's complete solo *Partitas* and *Sonatas* for violin coincides with her release of a new recording featuring these works. Each concert features a different selection of music. Following the concert, Pine will be available for a CD signing.



## Film Series

April–May, East Building Auditorium

Opening with Nicolas Philibert's *La Ville Louvre*, the film series *Europe's Grand Museums* celebrates the great European art institutions — many of which were revealing their corridors to film crews for the first time ever — and looks into the special world of exhibition halls and galleries, conservation labs, storage areas, and offices. Besides the Louvre, the series visits Vienna's Kunsthistorisches Museum, London's National Gallery, Rotterdam's Boijmans Van Beuningen, the Hermitage Museum in Saint Petersburg, and others.



Film still from *National Gallery* by Frederick Wiseman, screening on May 28 at 2:00.  
Courtesy Zipporah Films

## Concert

April 10, 3:30, West Building, West Garden Court

The Rose Ensemble will perform its “American Roots” program in honor of the exhibition *Three Centuries of American Prints from the National Gallery of Art*.



Photo courtesy of Michael Haug Photography

# Tours and Guides

[www.nga.gov/tours](http://www.nga.gov/tours)

Download self-guided tours or participate in docent-led tours. Tours and gallery talks begin in the West Building Rotunda or at the East Building Information Desk.



A Gallery docent leads a tour in front of Leonardo da Vinci's *Ginevra de' Benci* (c. 1474/1478, National Gallery of Art, Washington, Ailsa Mellon Bruce Fund).

## Guided Tours

Introductory tours of the collection are offered daily. Tours in foreign languages are offered monthly, including French, German, Italian, Japanese, Mandarin, Russian, and Spanish, among others. Call (202) 842-6247 to arrange group tours three weeks in advance.

## Self-Guided Tours

Easy-to-use printed sheets offer suggested routes and commentaries on select works of art.

## Gallery Talks

Talks by museum educators and specialists focus on specific aspects of the Gallery's permanent collection or exhibitions.

## Family Guides

American, Dutch, French, and Italian art illustrated guides are filled with games and exercises designed for families and groups with children ages 6 and up.

## Audio Tours

Recorded tours of the permanent collection are available in the West Building Rotunda. Exhibition tours are available at exhibition entrances for \$5, unless otherwise noted.

## Mobile Apps

Discover highlights of the National Gallery of Art collection with the *Your Art* app for iPhone, iPod Touch, iPad, and Android. Available for iPad, *NGAkids Art Zone* features eight interactive activities and an array of art-making tools.

# Family Activities

[www.nga.gov/family](http://www.nga.gov/family)

Discover a variety of multigenerational programs and resources that engage children, teens, and adults in active exploration of art.



Gallery educator leads a children's program in front of Claude Monet's *The Japanese Footbridge* (1899, National Gallery of Art, Washington, Gift of Victoria Nebeker Coberly, in memory of her son John W. Mudd, and Walter H. and Leonore Annenberg).

## Family Guides

Children ages 6 and up can learn about American, Dutch, French, and Italian paintings in the collection. Available at [www.nga.gov/content/ngaweb/education/families/family-guides.html](http://www.nga.gov/content/ngaweb/education/families/family-guides.html).

## An Eye for Art

A family-oriented art resource that introduces children to over 50 great artists and their work, with corresponding activities. Available for purchase in the Gallery Shops.

## NGAkids Art Zone for iPad

Eight new interactive activities and an array of art-making tools inspire artists of all ages. Available from the iTunes App Store: [itunes.apple.com/app/id904766241](https://itunes.apple.com/app/id904766241)

## Children's Video Tour: Time Travel

Presented in a kid-friendly, interactive style, highlights from the collection can be viewed at [www.nga.gov/education/timetravel/index.htm](http://www.nga.gov/education/timetravel/index.htm).

## Lizzy and Gordon Visit the Sculpture Garden

Children 4 to 10 years old can follow a brother and sister as they encounter iconic works on the 6.1-acre site in an animated musical adventure at [www.nga.gov/kids](http://www.nga.gov/kids).

## Teen Programs

Programs designed for students in grades 7 through 12 offer a variety of museum experiences, including in-gallery conversations around original works of art, studio instruction, behind-the-scenes tours, arts career information, and an opportunity to collaborate with other teens interested in art. Visit [www.nga.gov/teens](http://www.nga.gov/teens) for more information.

# Accessibility

[www.nga.gov/accessibility](http://www.nga.gov/accessibility)

The 6th Street entrance to the West Building at Constitution Avenue and the 4th Street entrance to the East Building each have ramps to accommodate wheelchairs and strollers. Accessible parking is located in front of the East Building or on Madison Drive. Wheelchairs and strollers are available at all entrances. For more information or assistance, call Art Information at (202) 842-6179 or Visitor Services at (202) 842-6690, Monday – Friday, 10:00 – 5:00.

## ASL at the NGA: An Introduction to the National Gallery of Art Collection

March 13, April 10, May 8, 1:00

Tours of the West Building collection are led by deaf guides in American Sign Language (ASL) with voice interpretation into English.

## Art for ASL Learners

Groups of 10 to 20 ASL students may book a 60-minute tour and discussion led entirely in ASL. The tour is offered by appointment only; contact [asl@nga.gov](mailto:asl@nga.gov).

## ASL Video Tour

The Director's Tour is now available as a free ASL video tour, which can be found online at [www.nga.gov/content/ngaweb/audio-video/video/asl.html](http://www.nga.gov/content/ngaweb/audio-video/video/asl.html). Videos can also be viewed on the Acoustiguide devices in the Gallery.

## Picture This: Tours for People with Low Vision or Who Are Blind

March 23, 26, April 23, 27, May 22, 27, 1:00

Public tours with an emphasis on verbal description of the collections are offered twice a month; topics change monthly.

## Special Tours, Audio Devices, and Print Materials

Tours for visitors who are deaf or hard of hearing, or are blind or have low vision, are available upon request. Visitors may borrow assistive listening devices for the West Building Lecture Hall from the Information Desk at the 6th Street and Constitution Avenue entrance to the West Building and for the East Building Auditorium from the Information Desk inside the 4th Street entrance. Printed scripts and assistive listening devices for tours are available to borrow. For more information or to make an appointment (three weeks in advance), call (202) 842-6905 or e-mail [access@nga.gov](mailto:access@nga.gov).

# Restaurants

[www.nga.gov/cafes](http://www.nga.gov/cafes)

## Pavilion Café

Sculpture Garden

Monday – Thursday: 10:00 – 7:00

Friday and Saturday: 10:00 – 9:00

Sunday: 11:00 – 7:00

With a panoramic view of the Sculpture Garden, the Pavilion Café offers specialty pizzas, sandwiches, salads, desserts, and assorted beverages.



Visitors enjoy dining outdoors at the Pavilion Café in the Sculpture Garden. Photo by Rob Shelley, National Gallery of Art, Washington

## Garden Café

West Building, Ground Floor

Monday – Saturday: 11:30 – 3:00

Sunday: 12:00 – 4:00

A buffet of healthy and wholesome entrées, specialty greens, antipasti, cheeses, soups, and desserts is offered in an elegant setting.

## Espresso & Gelato Bar

East Building, Concourse

Monday – Saturday: 10:00 – 4:30

Sunday: 11:00 – 5:30

A full espresso bar offers 19 flavors of house-made gelato and a selection of fresh sandwiches, salads, pastries, and desserts.

## Cascade Café

East Building, Concourse

Monday – Saturday: 11:00 – 3:00

Sunday: 11:00 – 4:00

The family-friendly Cascade Café offers soups, salads, specialty entrées, wood-fired pizzas, sandwiches, and a selection of fresh pastries and dessert with a view of the cascading waterfall.

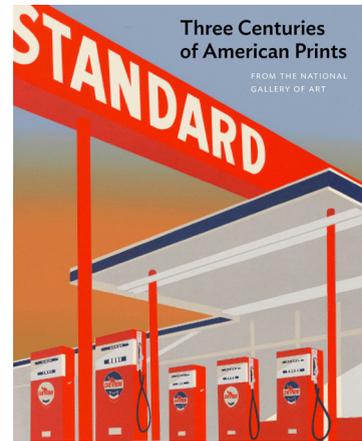
# Gallery Shops and Sculpture Garden

[shop.nga.gov](http://shop.nga.gov)

[www.nga.gov/sculpturegarden](http://www.nga.gov/sculpturegarden)

## Exhibition Catalog

*Three Centuries of American Prints from the National Gallery of Art* is the first major survey of its kind by an American museum in more than 20 years. In lively color illustrations and insightful texts, this beautifully designed book offers a comprehensive view of American art through masterful prints that range from the colonial period to the present, from Paul Revere to Kara Walker. To order: [shop.nga.gov](http://shop.nga.gov); (800) 697-9350 or (202) 842-6002; fax (202) 789-3047; [mailorder@nga.gov](mailto:mailorder@nga.gov).



## Sculpture Garden

Monday – Saturday: 10:00 – 5:00

Sunday: 11:00 – 6:00

Enjoy the spring weather in the family-friendly Sculpture Garden.



Visitors enjoy the warm weather in the Sculpture Garden with Alexander Calder's *Cheval Rouge (Red Horse)* (1974). Courtesy Calder Foundation, New York.

# Information

[www.nga.gov](http://www.nga.gov) or [www.nga.gov/help](http://www.nga.gov/help)

## Address

The National Gallery of Art and its Sculpture Garden are located on the National Mall between 3rd and 9th Streets along Constitution Avenue NW, Washington, DC. Public parking is limited to the surrounding streets and commercial garages.

## Telephone

(202) 737-4215

## Hours

Monday – Saturday: 10:00 – 5:00

Sunday: 11:00 – 6:00

The Gallery is closed on December 25 and January 1.

## E-newsletters and Calendar

E-newsletters: [www.nga.gov/subscribe](http://www.nga.gov/subscribe)

Complete calendar of events: [www.nga.gov](http://www.nga.gov)

To inquire or subscribe: [calendar@nga.gov](mailto:calendar@nga.gov)

## Wi-Fi

Wi-Fi service is available in the Cascade Café and the West Building Rotunda.

## About the Gallery

The Gallery's campus includes the original neoclassical West Building designed by John Russell Pope, which is linked underground to the modern East Building designed by I. M. Pei, and the verdant 6.1-acre Sculpture Garden.

Specific drawings and prints not on view may be seen by appointment by contacting (202) 842-6380 (European works), (202) 842-6605 (American works), or [printstudyrooms@nga.gov](mailto:printstudyrooms@nga.gov); for photographs, (202) 842-6144 or [photographs@nga.gov](mailto:photographs@nga.gov); for access to the Library collection, (202) 842-6511 or [refdesk@nga.gov](mailto:refdesk@nga.gov).

## Make a Gift to the Gallery

The National Gallery of Art relies on a partnership of public support and private philanthropy to exhibit, preserve, and enhance our nation's art collection. For more information: (202) 842-6372 or [giving@nga.gov](mailto:giving@nga.gov).

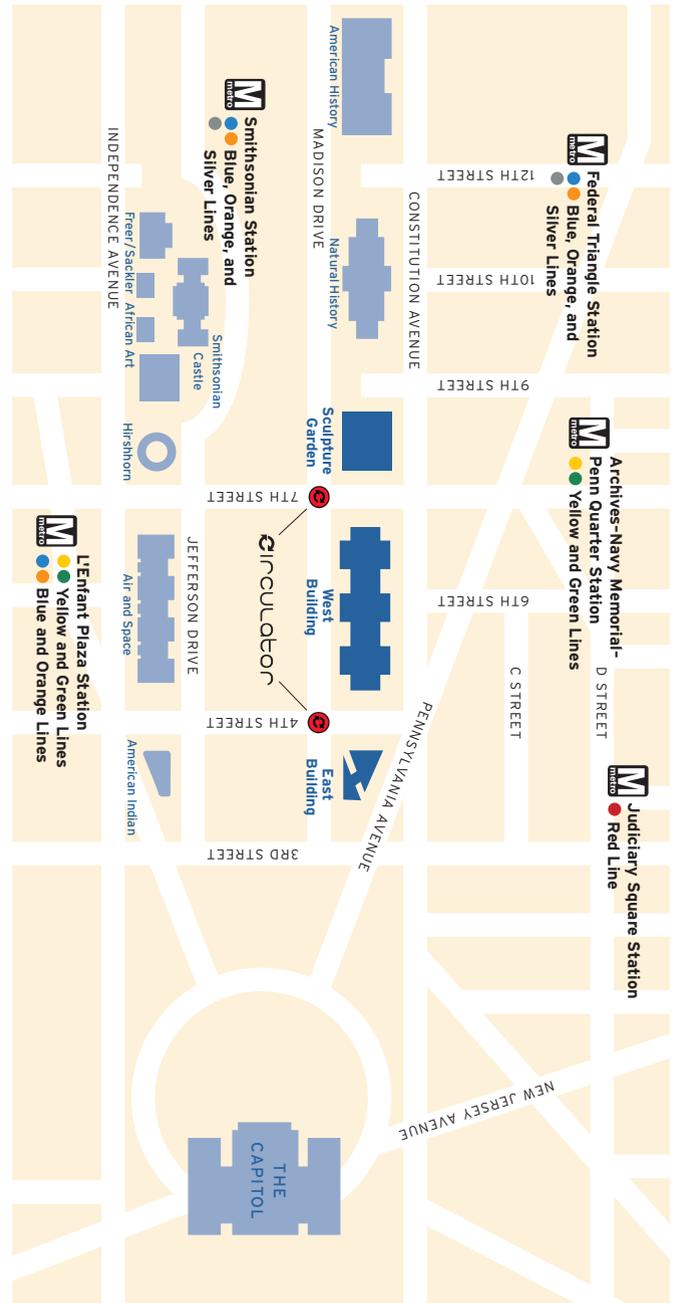
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# Map and Guide

[www.nga.gov/visit](http://www.nga.gov/visit)

## The Gallery's Map and Guide is available at all entrances in nine languages:

English, Français, Deutsch, Italiano, Español, Русский, 中国的, 日本人, 한국.

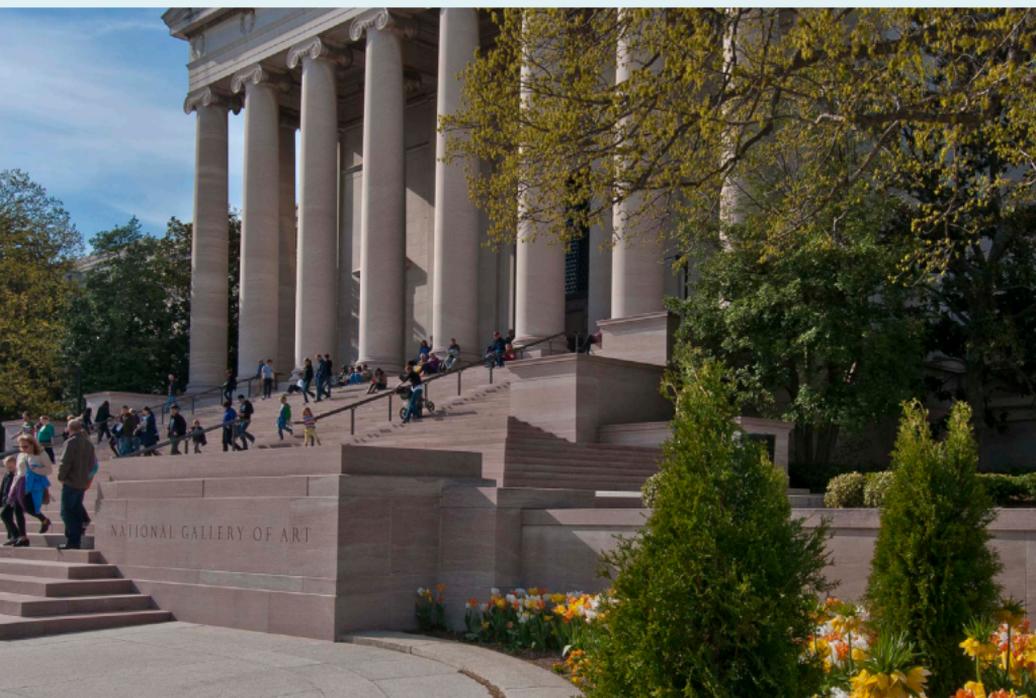


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**National Gallery of Art**

**Mailing Address:**  
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Spring flowers are in full bloom in front of the entrance to the Gallery's West Building.

Photo by Rob Shelley, National Gallery of Art, Washington

[www.nga.gov](http://www.nga.gov)

